

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

1. Rejection of Claims 1, 4, 5, 9, and 10 Under 35 USC §102(b) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,017,191 (Harmsen)

This rejection has been rendered moot by the amendment of claim 1 to include the substantive limitations of claim 3, including a recitation that the casing includes a **side outlet** in a peripheral wall, the side outlet being in communication with the **air outlet**.

The Harmsen patent does not disclose or suggest any sort of side outlet, and especially one that is in communication with the air outlet as claimed. Since the Harmsen patent does not disclose a side outlet, it could not possibly disclose guiding plates arranged adjacent to the air outlet and having an inclination towards the side outlet, also as claimed.

2. Rejection of Claims 1, 4, 6, and 8 Under 35 USC §102(b) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,603,271 (Maruyama)

This rejection has also been rendered moot by the amendment of claim 1 to include the substantive limitations of claim 3.

The Maruyama patent, like the Harmsen patent, does not disclose or suggest any sort of side outlet, much less a fan having guiding plates arranged adjacent to an air outlet and having an inclination towards the side outlet, as claimed.

3. Rejection of Claims 1, 4, 5, and 8 Under 35 USC §102(b) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,548,548 (Gray)

Like the Harmsen and Maruyama patents, the Gray patent does not disclose any sort of side outlet in communication with the air outlet, as recited in original claim 3 and now recited in claim 1.

4. Rejection of Claim 2 Under 35 USC §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,096,373 (Struve) and 6,017,191 (Harmsen)

This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that the Struve patent, like the Harmsen patent, fails to disclose or suggest the claimed combination of inclined guiding plates, an air outlet, *and* a side outlet in communication with the air outlet.

5. Rejection of Claim 3 Under 35 USC §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 4,603,271 (Maruyama) and 6,501,652 (Katsui)

This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that the Katsui patent, like the Maruyama patent, fails to disclose a side outlet in communication with an air outlet, and in which guiding plates are arranged adjacent the air outlet and inclined towards the side outlet.

While the Katsui patent does disclose side outlets 13 in a side of the fan, the Katsui patent does not disclose an air outlet corresponding to the claimed “air outlet,” and therefore cannot have suggested the claimed side outlet **in communication with** the air outlet, much less guiding plates adjacent the air outlet and inclined toward the side outlets. **The side outlets of Katsui are not in communication with any air outlet of the type disclosed in Maruyama, in which a base and guide plates are mounted.** *The side outlets 13 of Katsui are the sole outlets.* Instead, of a base, Katsui discloses that the fan is mounted on a chip or processor to be cooled.

Since neither Maruyama nor Katsui teaches the **combination** of:

- an air outlet in which a base and guiding plates are mounted; and
- a side outlet,
- wherein the guiding plates are inclined toward the side outlet,

it is respectfully submitted that the Maruyama and Katsui patents do not anticipate the claimed invention, and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 3 (whose limitations are now included in claim 1) under 35 USC §103(a) is respectfully requested.

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6. Rejection of Claim 7 Under 35 USC §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 4,603,271 (Maruyama) and 6,663,342 (Huang)

This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that the Huang patent, like the Maruyama patent, fails to disclose a side outlet in communication with an air outlet, and in which guiding plates are arranged adjacent the air outlet and inclined towards the side outlet.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Urcia', written over a horizontal line.

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